

RICHMOND HERITAGE COMMISSION

Minutes (draft) of Board Meeting held on 8/24/16 at 4Pm, at Carol Jameson's house

Present: Carol Jameson, Chair; Bonnie McCarthy, Treasurer; Bob Weekes, Sec'y; Sandy Laughner; Susan Roney; Hank Hallas (Alternate)

- Minutes of previous meeting were approved as presented
- Bonnie McCarthy presented the Treasurer's Report. All Heritage Commission projects are proceeding within planned budget levels at this time.
- Brewer Park
 - the survey required to draft the easement has been completed by Dick Drew and was discussed with commission members. Carol and Bob will meet Friday morning, 7/26/16, at the park site with Dick Drew, Frank Linnenbringer, DOT civil engineer and Ed Atkins to discuss any site restrictions and details of site preparation. Carol will record the findings of this meeting and will forward them to our Town Attorney.
 - Steve Laflam has submitted a new estimate for installing 6" x 6" PT landscape timbers to frame the park, based on the recently completed survey.
 - SignWorx is preparing an estimate for historical and directional signage for the park.
 - Bob reported that he has finished fabricating and painting the antique water pump. It is now ready ready for installation once a new cement well cap is poured.
 - Once the easement has been prepared and signed, Bob will call a meeting of those who will work with him on actual site preparation, including Peter Kimball, Ed Atkins, Steve Laflam and Sandy Laughner. Bob hopes most of this work can be completed by mid-October if we move quickly.
- Richmond Public Library Project
 - The original window shutters were restored, repainted and installed on the old section of the library (the schoolhouse) last week by Steve Laflam.
 - Steve Laflam installed the replica of the original belfry on the schoolhouse roof on the day of the meeting and rehung the school bell in it.
 - The commission discussed presenting this news to the community at Saturday's Fire Department Chicken Barbecue and combining that event with Bonnie's suggestion of holding an open house at the Richmond Tramp House that day. Bob promised to prepare publicity materials and choreograph this event including a ceremonial bell ringing during the festivities.
- Tramp House – Bonnie, Susie, Sandy and Bob were assigned duties to conduct the open house during the barbecue.
- Civil War Project
 - Target date is now 11/12/16 for Hank's presentation at the Vets Hall
 - Hank will write articles about this subject for both the October and November issues of the Rooster.

- Town Green Project
 - Carol presented the BOS point of view on next steps, namely that more work is needed to pin down what would be required to prepare the site as either a one or two phase operation.
 - Carol and Bob agreed to meet shortly at the site to formulate this plan, preparatory to the BOS seeking estimates for the work.
- Landscaping update
 - Carol reported on plantings at the Town Hall since the last meeting.
 - There is no work presently planned for installing the berm at the Vets Hall
 - It was reported that although the town has hired someone to mow the lawns at town owned properties, the grass in front of the Library and the Tramp House has not been cut in a month. Bob agreed to cut the grass in front of the Tramp House in time for the Chicken Barbecue.
- Artifacts/Archives
 - Pail artifacts from the Martin Mills were discussed. Carol will explore storage of same in the Parks and Rec shed in Amidon Park. Susie Roney will take charge of RHC discussions with the Winchendon Historical Society to see if they have information about, or interest in both the machinery or pail parts that have been set aside so far. We need to explore all possible solutions to this problem in order that these artifacts are properly cared for, either here or in Winchendon if the town of Richmond cannot.
 - Lynn Adams delivered to Bob Weekes a wood-framed bass drum in poor condition that was stored on the third floor of the Vets Hall. Noting that William Bassett in his History of Richmond recorded that town bands were a part of Richmond's past, and in fact at least 4 Richmond residents played the bass drum, Bob accepted this gift and he and wife, Jan, chair of the Richmond Public library which has oversight of the Town Archives, deposited the drum in the basement of the Library where its disposition can be decided by Jenna Carrol, Town Archivist, and the RPL board.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.

Bob Weekes, Sec'y